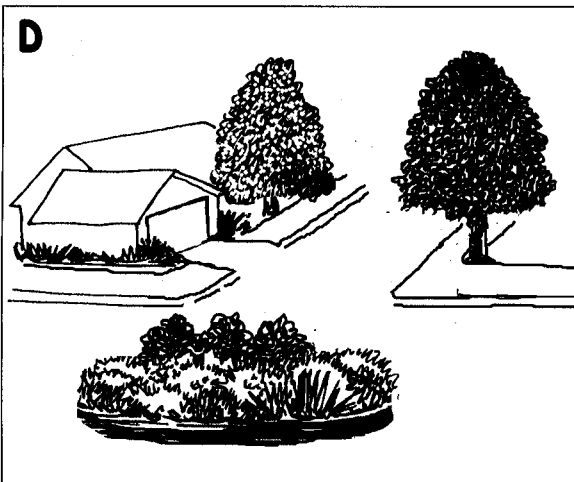


Drive slowly and give pedestrians the right of way.



Traffic calming measures, like this island, can help slow traffic on neighborhood streets.

# If you want to make your streets friendlier for kids

## Things that you can do yourself:

- As a driver, set an example by slowing down and giving pedestrians the right of way when crossing (C). Share the road with bicyclists.
- Obey speed limits, especially in neighborhoods where children play. Be extra careful in school zones.
- If buses or trains run in your area, use them with your child when practical.

## Things you can do with others:

Talk with your neighbors about the problems you see. They may want changes, too. Find others in your community who are concerned with child safety: traffic engineers, police traffic officers, school transportation directors, and parent-teacher associations. Write letters to your newspaper and speak up at public meetings for:

- playgrounds near homes so kids can play out of streets and parking areas;
- "traffic calming" improvements to slow down traffic on neighborhood streets (D), including traffic circles, speed bumps, and other engineering methods;
- construction of sidewalks or bike/pedestrian paths;
- a neighborhood crime watch, if needed. If playgrounds are being used for other activities, work with community groups to make them child-friendly.

**To get the "Walkability Checklist" (which is also available in spanish) or other child traffic safety information, visit the NHTSA website, [www.nhtsa.dot.gov](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov).**

**Or call the NHTSA Auto Safety Hotline: 1-888-DASH-2-DOT.**

## Preventing playground injuries

Yards, parks or playgrounds can be safe places for young children to play. Look for some of these features of safe play areas:

- spaces fenced in or well away from busy streets and traffic
- playground equipment in good repair
- soft surfaces below climbing structures and swings (wood chips, rubber, pea gravel, sand)
- grassy areas for games, paths for bicycling

